

## State of Connecticut House of Representatives

STATE CAPITOL HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

## REPRESENTATIVE SUSAN M. JOHNSON FORTY-NINTH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

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September 3, 2011

Kevin DelGobbo, Chairman Public Utilities Regulatory Authority 10 Franklin Square New Britain, CT 06051

Dear Chairman DelGobbo,

This is a complaint regarding CL&P's slow response to the restoration of power in eastern Connecticut. The damage to eastern Connecticut by Hurricane Irene was much more extensive than in the western part of the state, but CL&P has put more of an effort restoring power there. I have heard from many residents in Windham who are now going into their 5<sup>th</sup> day without power and CL&P has not given any explicit answer as to when we can expect power to be restored in Windham.

I am concerned with the limited availability of information, slow response and decreased CL&P staffing levels and request that the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority conduct a review of the storm response by CL&P to ensure that CL&P will be better prepared if another storm of this magnitude hits Connecticut. Additionally, much of the damage could have been prevented if trees around power lines were better maintained or the power lines were placed underground. Is there a plan to place all power lines underground? Please investigate what transpired during the 24 to 48 hours after the storm hit with the deployment of the CL&P workers. Connecticut's six municipal electric utilities have restored power faster than CL&P and UI according to a Hartford Courant article dated September 2<sup>nd</sup> while providing their customers with lower electric rates.

Thank you for your attention to this issue and I look forward to your response to my request.

Sincerely,

State Representative Susan M. Johnson

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